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Winthrop Will Hold Off on Adding Women's Lacrosse Team Until 2013

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Winthrop Will Hold Off on Adding Women's Lacrosse Team Until 2013

Quick Facts

- The first varsity women's lacrosse team would begin competition in the spring of 2013.
- Winthrop now offers club lacrosse for women through its Office of Recreational Services.

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Winthrop Athletics Director Tom Hickman** announced today that the university will not begin intercollegiate competition in women's lacrosse until the spring of 2013 in order to provide the best opportunity for a smooth beginning for the newest women's athletic program at Winthrop.

Winthrop's Board of Trustees voted to approve the new program at its November meeting on the recommendation of its Student Life Committee after it heard reports from Hickman, who told the committee that lacrosse is becoming very popular in the South as other nearby universities have added the sport. He said that the addition of women's lacrosse at Winthrop will create increased opportunities for women's participation in intercollegiate scholarship sports as defined in Title IX. He also indicated that women's lacrosse could become a Big South Conference championship sport within three years as more league schools sponsor the sport.

"Over the past three months, the Winthrop Athletics Department has worked toward the implementation of its women's lacrosse program," he said. "After carefully reviewing various implementation options, a determination has been made that the most prudent course would be to postpone the hiring of a head coach until the late spring."

Hickman says that by following this timeline, the first varsity women's lacrosse team would begin competition in the spring of 2013. "Such a schedule allows the coaching staff to work with the enrolling class of 2011 during the first year of program development while providing a full recruiting cycle for the incoming class of 2012," he says. Winthrop now offers club lacrosse for women through its **Office of Recreational Services**.

[\[Back to Previous Page\]](#)

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A-Z Site Map	Board of Trustees	Email	Finance & Business	Office of the President	Tuition & Fees
Accessibility	Calendars	Emergency/Safety	Financial Aid	Online Learning (Graduate)	Visit the Campus
Alumni & Friends	Directions	Employment	Library	Records & Registration	Visitors Center
Arts	Directory	Family Programs	Majors & More	Residence Life	Wingspan